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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

DETAILED ACTION

1> This action is in response to Applicant's amendments and arguments, filed 12.10.2007. Claim 7 is amended. Claim 21 is canceled. Claims 1-16, 18-20, and 22-24 are presented for further examination.

2> This is a final rejection.

Response to Arguments

3> Applicant argues that He does not teach that the issued tickets are stored in memory for used during a later session. Applicant points to a section in He that discloses that all tickets are deleted when a user logs off the computer as support for the argument. Applicant's arguments have been considered but are not persuasive.

Applicant's argument is premised entirely on the assumption that a user's log-on session contains only a single session with a network device. However, He discloses that once a general ticket (which reads on Applicant's authentication number) has been issued to a user, the user can establish different sessions with different network elements using the same general ticket [column 2 «lines 36-47» : a general ticket is used to "facilitate future access requests" and the general ticket is used "each time the user element initiates a communication session" (emphasis added)]. That is, each time a user requests a communication session with a network element, the server first checks the general ticket before issuing a separate session ticket that the user uses to connect to a particular network

element [Figure 7]. Thus, a user can establish multiple sessions with different elements during single log-on.

Applicant's independent claims merely require that the authentication is stored for use during a later session. He teaches this limitation. As discussed above, He teaches a user requests a "later" session with a network element after the general ticket (authentication number) has been issued in response to a previous session with a different network element.

Therefore, He discloses that a user establishes "later sessions" with different network elements but not the first network element with which the user had established the first session. But since Applicant's claims do not require that the "later session" be with the same network element with which the user had previously connected, He's teachings read on the claimed limitations.

4> Applicant also argues that Bonnaure fails to disclose an Internet TV. Applicant argues that Bonnaure is directed towards a standard television and interface device.

Applicant's specification defines an internet TV as device "in which a function of accessing the Internet and a function of receiving TV broadcast are combined with each other" [abstract]. To achieve this function, "modem apparatuses such as a cable modem, a local area network (LAN), an asymmetric digital subscriber line (ADSL) modem, and a telephone line modem are loaded" into the television [pg. 1, ll. 22-25]. Bonnaure's television and interface device clearly meet this definition. Bonnaure discloses a television with the cable modem integrated into the television [Figure 3]. Applicant's arguments are therefore not persuasive.

Art Unit: 2152

5> Based on the foregoing, Applicant's arguments are not persuasive. Therefore, the rejections set forth in the non-final rejection, filed 9.11.2007, are maintained.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

6> As a preliminary matter, in the final rejection mailed 7.28.2005, Official Notice was taken that the use checksums to check for errors is well known in the art. Applicant has not challenged this Official Notice. Therefore, the Official Notice is taken to be admitted as prior art because Applicant has failed to traverse. See MPEP §2144.03(c).

7> Claims 1, 2, 4, 5, 7, 9, 10, and 21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C §103(a) as being unpatentable over He et al, U.S Patent No. 6,088,451 ["He"], in view of Bonnaure et al, U.S Patent No. 5,862,339 ["Bonnaure"].

8> As to claim 1, He discloses a method for accessing the Internet, comprising:
transmitting a message from the Internet device to the server requesting authentication for use of information during a current session [Figure 6];

Art Unit: 2152

transmitting a message from the server requesting an authentication number from the Internet device [column 2 «lines 36-47» where He's general ticket is analogous to an authentication number];

transmitting the requested authentication number from the Internet device to the server if the authentication number is available [column 2 «lines 37-39»], checking a validity of the transmitted authentication number [column 2 «lines 42-46»], and providing information to the Internet device for the current session if it is determined that the authentication number is valid [column 2 «lines 42-47»];

requesting a new authentication number from the server if the authentication number is not available [column 17 «lines 61-67»], registering a user in accordance with information collected by the server [column 8 «lines 21-29»], receiving a new authentication number from the server [column 27 «lines 23-24»], and providing information to the Internet device for use during the current session [column 27 «lines 40-56»]; and

storing the new authentication number in a memory device of the Internet TV for use during a later session [column 2 «lines 36-46» : storing the general ticket is implied by the fact that it is used for future requests].

He does not disclose an Internet TV.

9> He discloses that his invention is for providing a security system for user access to network elements. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art that He's system would be compatible with any internet device, such as an Internet TV and as taught by Bonnaure [Figure 5].

10> As to claims 2 and 7, it is rejected for the same reasons set forth for claim 1.

Additionally, He discloses determining an authentication number based on additional information collected by the portal server [column 27 «lines 23-29» where : the ticket is generated based on verification of the user ID and password].

11> As to claim 4, He further discloses:

if the authentication number is not available, requesting the portal server to provide a new authentication number with respect to the use of information [column 17 «lines 61-67»];
and

receiving a new authentication number from the portal server and storing the authentication number in a memory device [column 17 «lines 61-67» : storing the number is implied by the fact that it is used for subsequent requests].

12> As to claim 5, He discloses:

examining the authentication number [column 27 «lines 44-47»];

receiving information from the portal server when it is determined from the examination of the authentication number that the authentication is a normal authentication number [column 27 «lines 44-56»].

13> As to claims 9 and 10, see the rejection of claims 1 and 2.

Art Unit: 2152

14> Claims 1-4, 7-10, 14, 20, and 22-24 are rejected under 35 U.S.C §103(a) as being unpatentable over Bonnaure.

15> As to claim 1, Bonnaure discloses a method for accessing the internet using an internet TV in an internet TV system comprising the internet TV, in which a function of accessing the internet and a function of receiving a TV broadcast are combined, and a server for operating a portal site which provides information to the internet TV [Figure 2 | Figure 7], the method comprising:

transmitting a message from the internet TV to the server requesting authentication for use of information during a current session [Figure 13 «item 1310»];

transmitting a message from the server requesting an authentication number from the Internet TV [Figure 13 «item 1311» | Figure 15 «item 1510» : the WebTV server requesting an encryption key from the client];

transmitting the requested authentication number from the Internet TV to the server if the authentication number is available [Figure 8 «item 844» | column 10 «lines 53-57»], checking a validity of the transmitted authentication number [Figure 11 «items 1120» where : Bonnaure does not expressly disclose checking the validity of the encryption key; however, such a feature is implied because the server and client establish a connection through the encryption key; if the client provides an incorrect key, then connections will not be established], and providing information to the Internet TV for the current session if it is determined that the authentication number is valid [column 9 «lines 23-26» : subsequent data communications];

Art Unit: 2152

requesting a new authentication number from the server if the authentication number is not available [Figure 12 «item 1210»], registering a user in accordance with information collected by the server [Figure 12 «item 1212, 1214» | column 4 «lines 55-60» | column 8 «lines 44-54»], receiving a new authentication number from the server [column 7 «lines 24-42»], and providing information to the Internet TV for use during the current session [column 9 «lines 23-26»]; and

storing the new authentication number in a memory device of the Internet TV for use during a later session [column 7 «lines 24-42»].

16> As to claim 2, Bonnaure discloses a method for accessing the Internet using an Internet TV, comprising:

transmitting a message requesting authentication for use of information to a portal server and transmitting a response from the portal server requesting transmission of an authentication number when the Internet TV is turned on [Figure 13 «items 1310, 1311» | Figure 15 «item 1510»];

determining if the authentication number requested by the portal server is available and transmitting the authentication number to the portal server if the authentication number is already available, and determining an authentication number based on additional information collected by the portal server and transmitting the authentication number to the Internet TV for storage if the authentication number is not already available [Figure 8 «item 844» | Figure 11 «item 1120» | Figure 12 «items 1210, 1212» : generating an encryption key based on whether the client network address and identifiers are valid | column 10 «lines 53-57»];

transmitting information related to the message requesting authentication for use of information from the portal server to the Internet TV [column 9 «lines 23-26»].

17> As to claims 3 and 20, Bonnaure further discloses:

determining if the Internet TV is in a default state [column 12 «lines 5-16» : initial activation of the client box];

requesting the portal server to search for an authentication number corresponding to the Internet TV when the Internet TV is in a default state [Figure 12 «item 1214»];

inputting user information requested by the portal server [Figure 12 «item 1212»]; and

receiving the requested authentication number and storing the received number in a memory device [Figure 11 «item 1112»].

18> As to claim 4, Bonnaure further discloses:

if the authentication number is not available, requesting the portal server to provide a new authentication number with respect to the use of information [Figure 12 «item 1210»];

and

receiving a new authentication number from the portal server and storing the authentication number in a memory device [Figure 12 «item 1214»].

19> As to claim 7, as it does not teach or further define over the limitations of claims 1 and 2, claim 7 is similarly rejected for at least the same reasons set forth above.

20> As to claim 8, Bonnaure discloses the portal server is in a stand-by state waiting for an access request message [Figure 12 «item 1210»].

21> As to claim 9, Bonnaure further discloses:

requesting the Internet TV to provide user information when the received access request message requests the portal server to search for an authentication number [column 7 «lines 16-23 and 43-56»];

determining whether a user is registered in a database when the user information is received and transmitting an authentication number if the user is registered [column 7 «lines 16-23 and 43-56» | column 11 «lines 48-59» : transmission of the encryption key if the user has an account or has registered the device's box number].

22> As to claim 10, Bonnaure discloses assigning a new authentication number to the Internet TV when the user information is received and transmitting the assigned authentication number to the Internet TV [column 1 «lines 40-51» : establishing and registering an account | column 4 «lines 49-60»]. Bonnaure does not expressly disclose requesting for the user information when it is determined that the user is not registered. However, this feature is well known in the art and implied by Bonnaure's disclosure that user's must first establish accounts with the server for being granted access to internet services. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to have reasonably inferred that Bonnaure's system had a means for requesting user information in order to establish the user accounts.

23> As to claim 14, Bonnaure discloses registering the user in the database and providing information to the Internet TV when the user information is received [column 1 «lines 40-51» : establishing and registering an account | column 4 «lines 49-60»].

24> As to claim 22, Bonnaure does not disclose a user registration form to register the users. However, user registration forms in an ecommerce/internet environment are ubiquitous throughout the art. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to have reasonably inferred the user of such a form to establish a user account and register the user.

25> As to claim 23, Bonnaure discloses the authentication number is accessed from a memory device of the Internet TV [Figure 8 «item 844»].

26> As to claim 24, Bonnaure discloses accessing the stored authentication number to gain access to the Internet [Figure 8 «item 844»].

27> Claims 5, 6, 11-13, 18, 19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C §103(a) as being unpatentable over Bonnaure, in view of Dorfman et al, U.S Patent No. 6.449.651 [“Dorfman”].

28> As to claim 5, Bonnaure does disclose receiving information from the portal server when it is determined from the examination of the authentication number that the

Art Unit: 2152

authentication number is a normal authentication number [column 9 «lines 23-26» : receiving information only if the encryption key is correct] but does not expressly disclose examining the authentication number. This step is implied from the fact that if the encryption key is incorrect then subsequent communications of data will not be successful.

Additionally, Dorfman discloses checking the validity of encryption keys by examining them [column 3 «lines 1-6»]. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to have reasonably inferred that Bonnaure included the examination step in order to insure that the encryption key was valid.

29> As to claim 6, Bonnaure as modified discloses:

providing user information requested by the portal server when it is determined from the examination of the authentication number that the authentication number is not a normal authentication number [column 7 «lines 16-23 and 43-56»];

receiving an authentication number from the portal server and storing the received authentication number in a memory device [column 7 «lines 16-23 and 43-56» | column 11 «lines 48-59»].

30> As to claim 11, Bonnaure and Dorfman discloses checking for an error in the authentication number [see rejection of claim 5], determining whether the user is registered in a database when an error is not detected [column 1 «lines 40-51» | column 7 «lines 43-56»], and providing information to the Internet TV when it is determined that the user is

registered in the database. However, they do not disclose providing the information according to whether a user fee is paid.

The feature of providing services based on a paid fee is ubiquitous in the art. It is not only well known but expected in all areas of ecommerce. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to have reasonably inferred that the services provided by Bonnaure's service providers hinged upon whether users paid their fees.

31> As to claim 12, Bonnaure and Dorfman do not disclose using checksums to check the validity of the key. However, using checksums to check for errors is almost as ubiquitous as paying fees for a service. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to have used the checksum functionality to determine the validity of encryption keys to insure they are not corrupted.

32> As to claim 13, Bonnaure as amended discloses transmitting an error message when an error is detected in the authentication number [Figure 13 «item 1318»], requesting the Internet TV to provide user information and determining whether the user is registered in the database and transmitting a corresponding authentication number when it is determined that the user is registered [see rejection of claim 11]

33> As to claims 18 and 19, as they do not teach or further define over the limitations of claims 5, 6 and 11-13, claims 18 and 19 are similarly rejected for at least the same reasons above.

Art Unit: 2152

34> Claim 15 is rejected under 35 U.S.C §103(a) as being unpatentable over Bonnaure in view of Nobakht.

35> Bonnaure does not disclose determining whether a user fee is paid and transmitting a message to the user saying so. However, Nobakht discloses the feature whereby determining a user fee is paid and transmitting a message that the user fee is not paid if it is determined that the user fee is not paid [Nobakht, Col.12, lines 59-66]. This feature is well known in the ecommerce arts to keep subscribers up to date with their account information. It would have been obvious to anyone of ordinary skill in the art to have incorporated these accounting features into Bonnaure to better enable service providers to inform their customers of delinquent accounts.

Conclusion

THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL. Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the

Art Unit: 2152

advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.


Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to DOHM CHANKONG whose telephone number is (571)272-3942. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday [8:30 AM to 4:30 PM].

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Bunjob Jaroenchonwanit can be reached on 571.272.3913. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/D. C./
Examiner, Art Unit 2152

/Bunjob Jaroenchonwanit/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2152

<div>Application Number</div> <div></div>	Application/Control No.	Applicant(s)/Patent under Reexamination	
	09/996,718	YU, WON UK	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	DOHM CHANKONG	2152	